Alcohol Problems and Services for OIF/OEF Veterans

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VHA SUD Patients

Number of OIF/OEF VA Healthcare Patients With Provisional Diagnoses of Substance Use Disorder Seen in FY 2007

Alcohol Only = 9,262

Drugs Only = 1,915

Both Alcohol and Drugs = 3,068

New OIF/OEF VA Healthcare Patients with Possible Diagnoses of Alcohol or Drug Dependence by Year First Seen

Year	Number	Percent*	
FY 2002	27	(1%)	
FY 2003	95	(0%)	
FY 2004	671	(1%)	
FY 2005	2058	(3%)	
FY 2006	3544	(4%)	
FY 2007	5208	(5%)	
FY 2008	1578	(7%)	(First quarter)
Total	13181	(4%)	

* % of *all* new OIF/OEF VA Healthcare patients seen that year.

Kang, H, 6/20/08

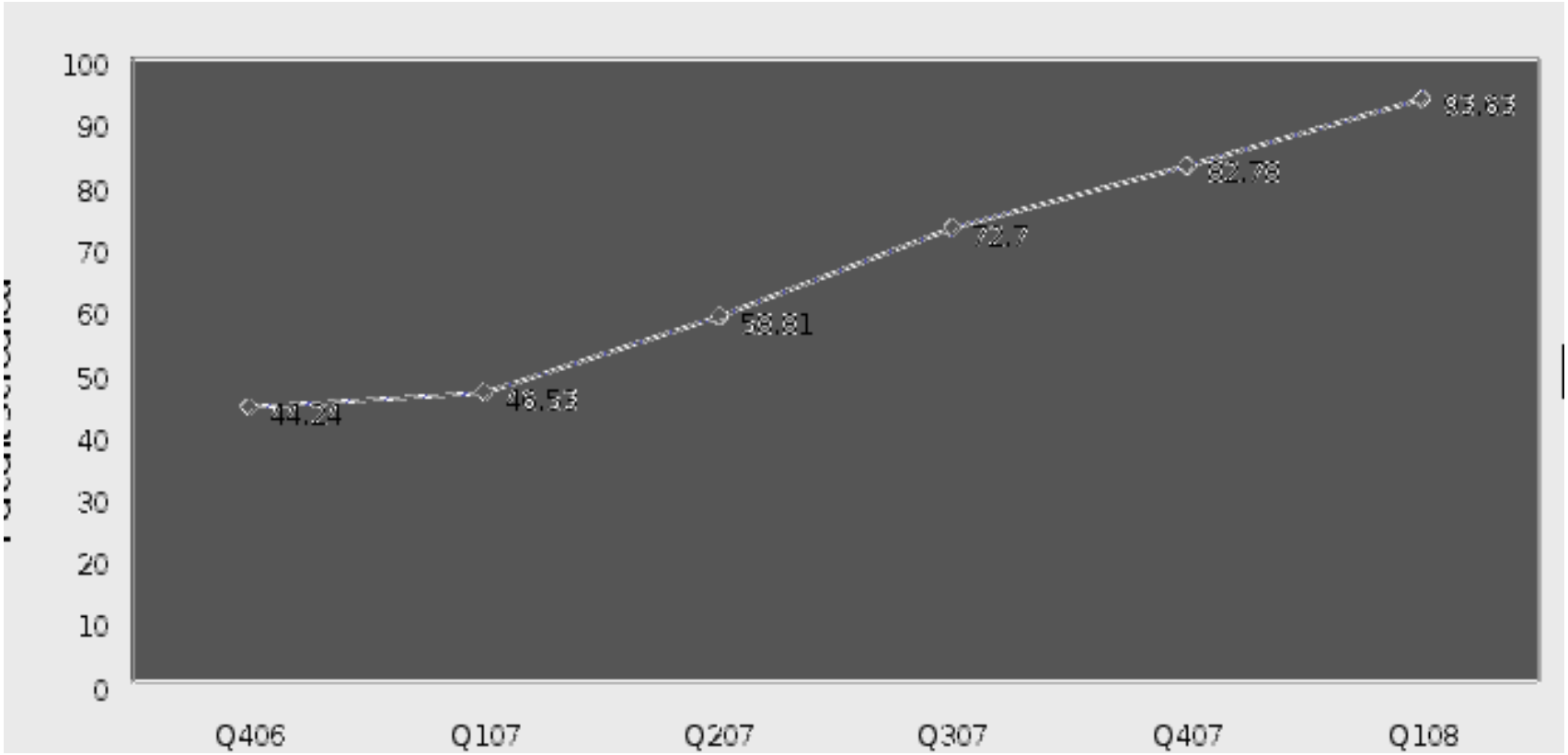
OEF/OIF Patients Screening Positive (AUDIT-C of 5+) for Alcohol Diagnoses in FY 2007

- 20% positive vs. 15% for non-OEF/OIF veterans. (NS when corrected for age)
- Equally likely as non-OEF/OIF veterans to receive advice or feedback on their drinking (approximately 43%).
- Somewhat less likely than non-OEF/OIF veterans to be referred for substance abuse care or for the topic to be discussed with them (around 25% to around 38%).

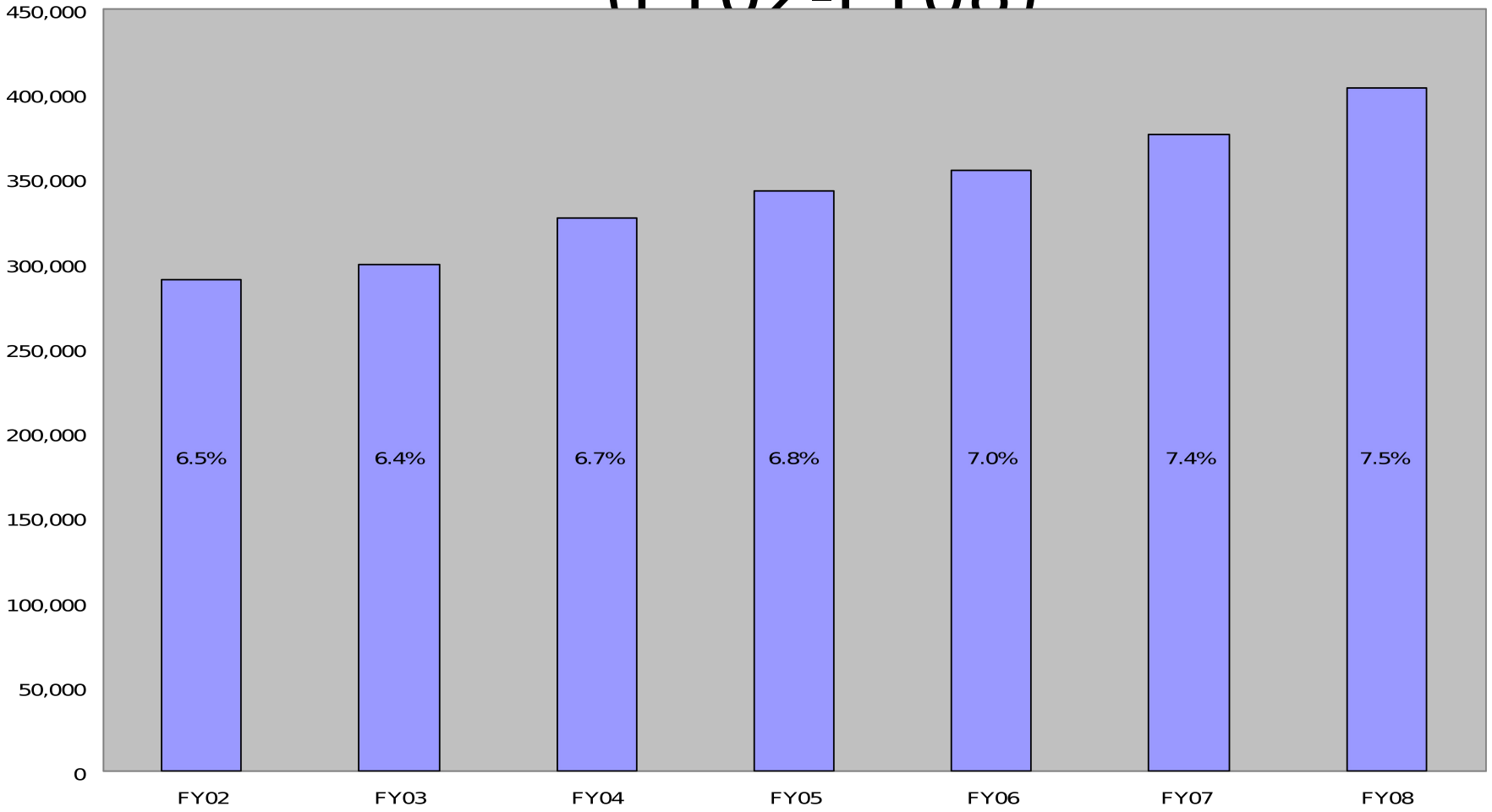
Characteristics of Veterans in Need of SUD Care

- Rates and severity of SUD problems are higher for self-reported veterans.
- Veterans differ from broader American society in need of care (e.g. older, more likely to be male, greater rates of mental health/legal/employment problems).
- 60% of VA patients seen in SUD specialty care have a diagnosis for another mental health problem.

Audit-C Screening Rates FY06-08

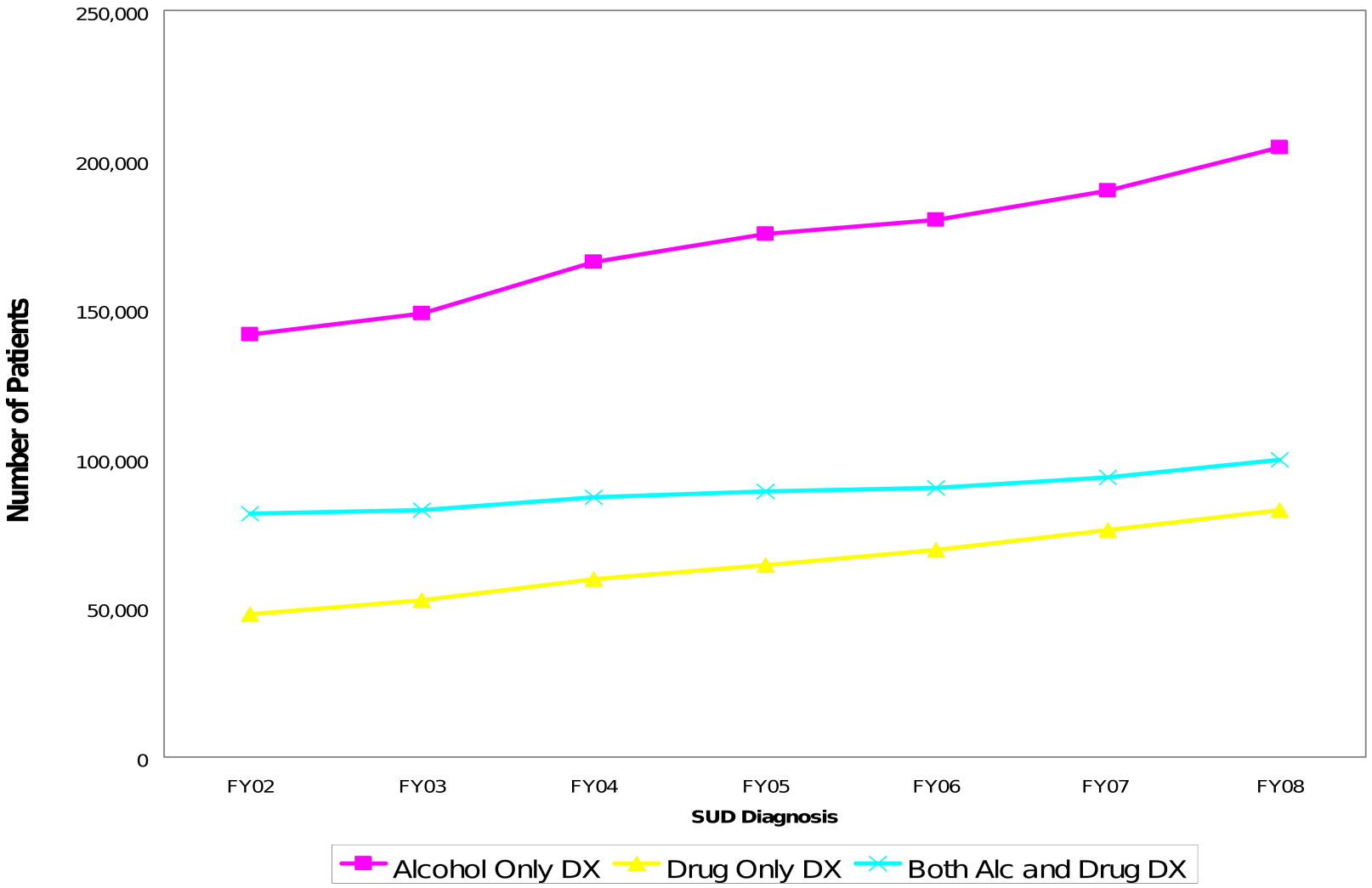


Number of Veterans with SUD diagnoses (FY02-FY08)

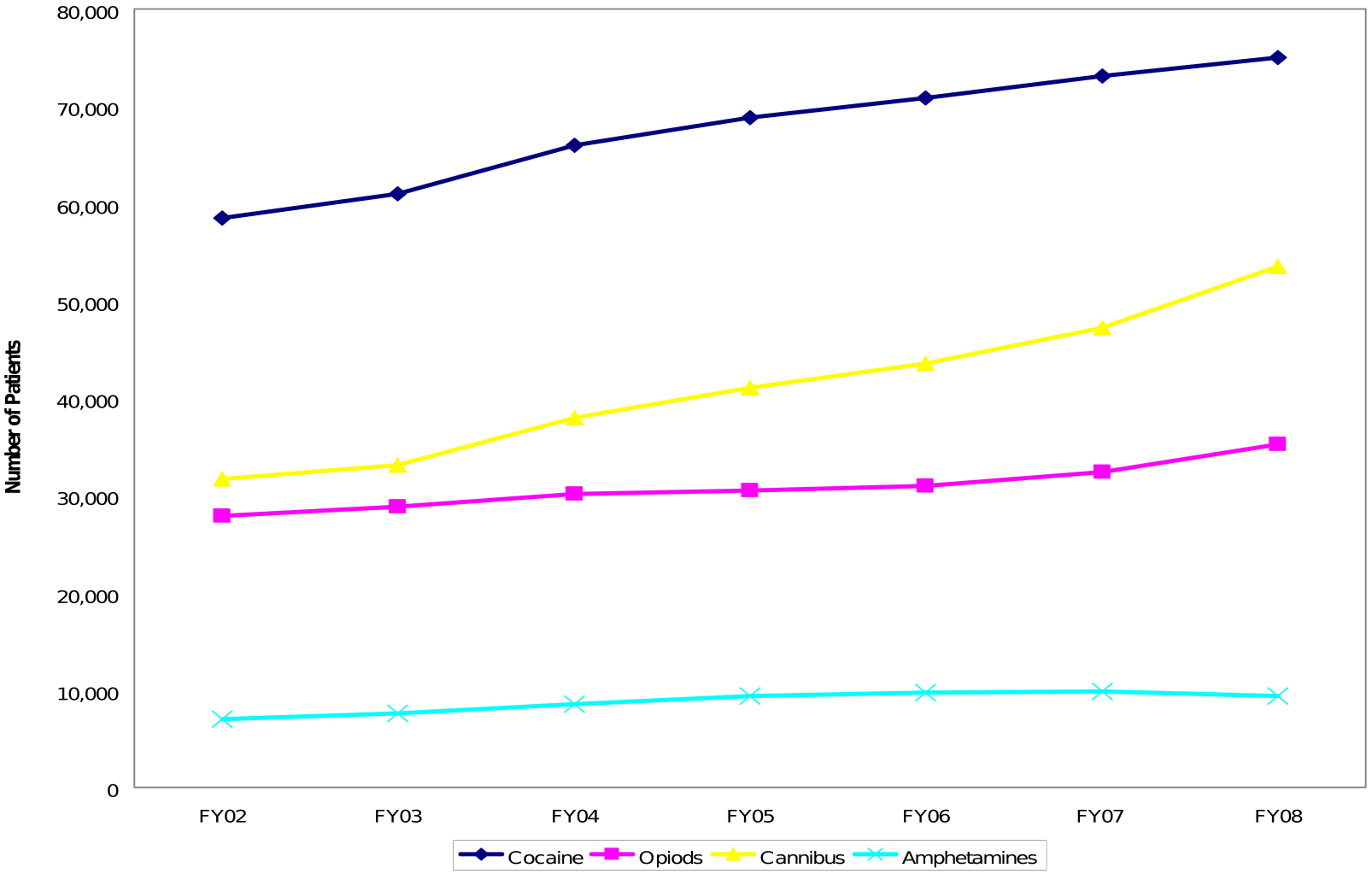


Note: % within bar indicates the percent of total VA patients receiving any outpatient services diagnosed with SUD

Prevalence of SUD Diagnoses



Diagnoses by Drug of Abuse



VHA Resources for Alcohol Treatment

Settings for SUD Care

- **Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs** --Focused on providing psychosocial treatment. Differ from traditional inpatient programs by having lower staffing levels and longer lengths of stay. There are dedicated Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs, but all residential treatment programs within the VA offer SUD treatment in some fashion.

- **Intensive outpatient programs--**Provide at least three hours of treatment services three days per week. Includes day treatment, partial hospitalization, and intensive outpatient clinic-based programs.

- **Standard outpatient programs--**Ambulatory services; intensive outpatient services in smaller sites.

- **Methadone maintenance programs**

- **Non-SUD specialty care** --SUD services provided in primary care (including buprenorphine), mental health, PTSD services/teams, etc.

Substance Use Disorder Specialty Services

- Facilities with Residential Treatment = 97
- Intensive Outpatient Units = 111*
- Standard Outpatient Units = 153
- Combined PTSD/SUD Services = 12**
- Methadone Maintenance Programs = 42

*28 more in the process of implementation

**133 more in the process of implementation

SUD Outpatient Specialty Treatment Staffing (as of end of FY 2008)

Type of Position	Total FTEE
Physicians	160
Nurse Practitioners, Physician Extenders	66
Clinical Psychologists	148
Social Workers	301
Addiction Therapists	407
Clinical Nurse Specialists, RNs, LPNs	260
Other (OT, Pharmacists, Psychology Techs, Nurses Aids, Social Work Aids)	140
Total FTEE	1,482

Recent Enhancements to SUD Treatment Services

New SUD Program Spending

	No.	FY 09 (est.)
Creation of SUD IOP's	28	$16,720,000
Addition of SUD Specialist to PTSD Teams	133	$16,300,000
Addition of SUD Specialist to Large CBOCs	47	$5,610,000
Addition of SUD Specialist to Non-SA RRTP's	3 3	$3,700,000
Total		$43,630,000